

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Kanji NAGATO

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Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

02/11/2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference
FPHH977PC

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/011608

International filing date (day/month/year)

12.08.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

19.08.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Int.Cl.⁷ G01R 33/09

Applicant

KABUSHIKI KAISHA MINERVA

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:



Box No. I Basis of the opinion



Box No. II Priority



Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability



Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention



Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement



Box No. VI Certain documents cited



Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application



Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japan Patent Office

Date of completion of this opinion
14.10.2004

Authorized officer

Mr. Hori (2S 3005)

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/011608

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

- ☐ the international application in the language in which it was filed
- ☐ a translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

- ☐ a sequence listing
- ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

- ☐ on paper
- ☐ in electronic form

c. time of filing/furnishing

- ☐ contained in the international application as filed
- ☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

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International application No.

PCT/JP2004/011608

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|-----|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Claims | 2 | YES |
| | Claims | 1 | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | | YES |
| | Claims | 1-2 | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-2 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |

2. Citations and explanations:

Referring to Document 1 cited in the International Search Report: [0032] to [0063] and Figs. 1 to 7 of JP 11-316134 A, Document 1 discloses a similar constitution to the magnetic sensor claimed in claim 1 of the application. Therefore, claim 1 has neither novelty nor inventive step.

In Document 1, a half bridge shown in Fig. 2 of Document 1 is utilized in order to detect the resistance change of a magnetic detecting device. In this respect, Document 1 differs from the constitution claimed in claim 2 of the application. It is, however, a usual practice to utilize a full bridge combined with a fixed resistor for the purpose of detecting the output of a sensor device. Accordingly, it is easy for those skilled in the art to reconstitute the magnetic sensor disclosed in Document 1 into one using the full bridge.

As a consequence, claim 2 has not inventive step.